



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/612,398	07/01/2003	Markus Aholainen	944-004.030	3214

4955 7590 02/09/2006

WARE FRESSOLA VAN DER SLUYS &
ADOLPHSON, LLP
BRADFORD GREEN BUILDING 5
755 MAIN STREET, P O BOX 224
MONROE, CT 06468

EXAMINER

PHUONG, DAI

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2688

DATE MAILED: 02/09/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/612,398	AHOLAINEN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Dai A. Phuong	2688	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 January 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 July 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's arguments filed 01/20/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Claims 1-24 are currently pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-9, 13-18 and 20-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kukkohovi (U.S. 6,119,003).

Regarding claim 1, Kukkohovi discloses a method by which a first device (11) provides a connection (14) to a second device (12) (col. 3, lines 7-18), characterized by: a step (20) in which the first device (11) obtains from a contacts bearer data store (11d 11d') association information including a list of at least two possible bearers for providing the connection (14) (col. 2, lines 23-34, col. 3, lines 60 to col. 4, line 12 and col. 5, lines 22-33. Specifically, Kukkohovi the memory 24 is assumed to store a system or network ordered priority list (PL) 24A, and may store also a network history list (HL) 24B), wherein bearers so as to arrange the association information by contact (col. 2, lines 23-41 and col. 4, line 37 to col. 5, line 33); and a step (28) in which the first device (11) selects one of the at least two possible bearers based on a predetermined selection strategy (11b) or by trying each of the at least two possible bearers in turn until the connection (14) is made (col. 4, lines 22-64 and col. 5, lines 22-59); thereby

automatically selecting a bearer for providing the connection (14) to the second device (12) without requiring an input by a user of the first device (11) at the time of providing the connection (14) (fig. 2, col. 2, lines 23-41, col. 3, lines 19-31 and col. 4, lines 42-59. Specifically, Kukkohovi discloses this invention provides a mechanism for the mobile terminal 10 to switch between the primary and secondary systems in an automatic and user-transparent manner. Inherently, after selecting a network, it automatically provides a connection between the first mobile terminal and the second mobile terminal).

Regarding claim 2, Kukkohovi discloses all the limitation in claim 1. Further, Kukkohovi discloses a method further characterized by: a step (20) in which the association information is stored in a contacts bearer data store (11d 11d') (col. 4, lines 3-7); and a step (24) in which the first device (11) refers to the contacts bearer data store (11d 11d') accessible to the first device (11) to obtain a list of at least two possible bearers for providing the connection (14) (col. 4, lines 42-59).

Regarding claim 3, Kukkohovi discloses all the limitation in claim 2. Further, Kukkohovi discloses a method further characterized by: a step (24) in which the first device (11) refers to an owner bearer data store (11c) to obtain a list of bearers available to the first device (11) (col. 4, lines 3-7) and also refers to a bearer selection strategy data store (11b) to obtain the predetermined selection strategy (col. 5, lines 44-59); and a step (25) in which the first device (11) refers to the contacts bearer data store (11d 11d') to obtain a list of possible bearers for providing the connection (14) and an address for each of the possible bearers (col. 4, lines 42-59); and a step (26) in which the first device (11) eliminates from the list of possible bearers any bearer that does not occur on the list of available bearers (col. 7, lines 29-38).

Regarding claim 4, Kukkohovi discloses all the limitation in claim 1. Further, Kukkohovi discloses a method further characterized in that a public source of contact information is used in the step (20) of obtaining association information (11d 11d') (fig. 2, col. 3, lines 19-26).

Regarding claim 5, Kukkohovi discloses all the limitation in claim 1. Further, Kukkohovi discloses a method further characterized in that in the step (20) of obtaining association information (11d 11d'), the second device (12) communicates to the first device (10) the association information needed by the first device (10) for automatically selecting a bearer for communication with the second device (12) (col. 4, lines 42-59).

Regarding claim 6, Kukkohovi discloses all the limitation in claim 1. Further, Kukkohovi discloses a method wherein the predetermined selection strategy (11b) indicates selecting a bearer based on at least one of the following selection criteria: acceptable price; acceptable bandwidth; acceptable latency; as ordered in a list (11d 11d') hosted in the first device (11); fastest to connect when the first device (11) attempts to make different connections in parallel to the second device (12) via different possible bearers; wherein the acceptable price, acceptable bandwidth, and acceptable latency are as compared to predetermined thresholds for price, bandwidth and latency (col. 5, lines 44-59).

Regarding claim 7, Kukkohovi discloses all the limitation in claim 6. Further, Kukkohovi discloses a method wherein the predetermined threshold for latency indicates a minimum quality of service (QoS) requirement for the connection (14) (col. 5, line 60 to col. 6, line 1-8).

Regarding claim 8, Kukkohovi discloses all the limitation in claim 7. Further, Kukkohovi discloses a method further comprising a step (29) of periodically checking the QoS requirement during communication via the connection (14) and initiating a bearer change if the QoS is no longer sufficient (col. 5, line 60 to col. 6, line 1-8).

Regarding claim 9, Kukkohovi discloses all the limitation in claim 1. Further, Kukkohovi discloses a method wherein the association information (11d 11d') includes a bearer identifier for each of at least two different bearers associated with the second device (12) (col. 3, lines 18-30).

Regarding claim 13, Kukkohovi discloses a computer program product comprising: a computer readable storage structure embodying computer program code thereon for execution by a computer processor in a first device (11), said computer program code for use in providing for the first device (11) a connection (14) to a second device (12) (col. 3, line 60 to col. 4, line 12), said computer program code comprising: computer program code for causing the computer processor to perform a step (20) in which the first device (11) obtains *from a contacts bearer data store (11d 11d') association information* including a list of at least two possible bearers for providing the connection (14) (col. 2, lines 23-34, col. 3, lines 60 to col. 4, line 12 and col. 5, lines 22-33. Specifically, Kukkohovi discloses the memory 24 is assumed to store a system or network ordered priority list (PL) 24A, and may store also a network history list (HL) 24B), *wherein the contacts bearer data store (11d 11d') associates contacts with bearers so as to arrange the association information by contact* (col. 2, lines 23-41 and col. 4, line 37 to col. 5, line 33); and computer program code for causing the computer processor to perform a step (28) in which the first device (11) selects one of the at least two possible bearers based on a

predetermined selection strategy (11b) or by trying each of the at least two possible bearers in turn until the connection (14) is made (col. 4, lines 22-64 and col. 5, lines 22-59); said computer program code thereby providing functionality for automatically selecting a bearer for providing the connection (14) to the second device (12) without requiring an input by a user of the first device (11) at the time of providing the connection (14) (fig. 2, col. 2, lines 23-41, col. 3, lines 19-31 and col. 4, lines 42-59. Specifically, Kukkohovi discloses this invention provides a mechanism for the mobile terminal 10 to switch between the primary and secondary systems in an automatic and user-transparent manner. Inherently, after selecting a network, it automatically provides a connection between the first mobile terminal and the second mobile terminal).

Regarding claim 14, Kukkohovi discloses all the limitation in claim 13. Further, Kukkohovi discloses a computer program product further characterized by: computer program code for causing the computer processor to perform a step (20) of storing the association information in a contacts bearer data store (11d 11d') (col. 3, line 60 to col. 4, line 12); and computer program code for causing the computer processor to perform a step (24) in which the first device (11) refers to the contacts bearer data store (11d 11d') accessible to the first device (11) to obtain a list of at least two possible bearers for providing the connection (14) (col. 3, line 60 to col. 4, line 12).

Regarding claim 15, Kukkohovi discloses an apparatus included in a first device (11) for enabling the first device (11) to provide a connection (14) to a second device (12) (col. 3, lines 7-18), characterized by: means (11a) for obtaining from a contacts bearer data store (11d 11d') association information including a list of at least two possible bearers for providing the connection (14) (col. 2, lines 23-34, col. 3, lines 60 to col. 4, line 12 and col. 5, lines 22-33.

Art Unit: 2688

Specifically, Kukkohovi discloses the memory 24 is assumed to store a system or network ordered priority list (PL) 24A, and may store also a network history list (HL) 24B), wherein the contacts bearer data store (11d 11d') associates contacts with bearers so as to arrange the association information by contact (col. 2, lines 23-41 and col. 4, line 37 to col. 5, line 33); and means (11a) for selecting one of the at least two possible bearers based on a predetermined selection strategy (11b) or by trying each of the at least two possible bearers in turn until the connection (14) is made (col. 4, lines 22-64 and col. 5, lines 22-59); thereby enabling automatic selection of a bearer for providing the connection (14) to the second device (12) without requiring an input by a user of the first device (11) at the time of providing the connection (14) ((fig. 2, col. 2, lines 23-41, col. 3, lines 19-31 and col. 4, lines 42-59. Specifically, Kukkohovi discloses this invention provides a mechanism for the mobile terminal 10 to switch between the primary and secondary systems in an automatic and user-transparent manner. Inherently, after selecting a network, it automatically provides a connection between the first mobile terminal and the second mobile terminal).

Regarding claim 16, Kukkohovi discloses all the limitation in claim 15. Further, Kukkohovi discloses an apparatus further characterized by: means (20) for storing the association information in a contacts bearer data store (11d 11d') (col. 4, lines 3-7); and means (24) by which the first device (11) refers to the contacts bearer data store (11d 11d') accessible to the first device (11) to obtain a list of at least two possible bearers for providing the connection (14) (col. 4, lines 42-59).

Regarding claim 17, Kukkohovi discloses all the limitation in claim 15. Further, Kukkohovi discloses an apparatus wherein the predetermined selection strategy (11b) indicates

selecting a bearer based on at least one of the following selection criteria: acceptable price; acceptable bandwidth; acceptable latency; as ordered in a list (11d 11d') hosted in the first device (11); fastest to connect when the first device (11) attempts to make different connections in parallel to the second device (12) via different possible bearers; wherein the acceptable price, acceptable bandwidth, and acceptable latency are as compared to predetermined thresholds for price, bandwidth and latency (col. 5, line 60 to col. 6 line 8).

Regarding claim 18, Kukkohovi discloses all the limitation in claim 15. Further, Kukkohovi discloses an apparatus wherein the association information (11d 11d') includes a bearer identifier for each of at least two different bearers associated with the second device (12) (col. 3, lines 19-30).

Regarding claim 20, Kukkohovi discloses a system comprising a first device (11) and a second device (12), with the first device (11) including an apparatus for enabling the first device (11) to provide a connection (14) to the second device (12) (col. 3, lines 7-18), the system characterized in that the apparatus comprises: means (11a) for obtaining from a contacts bearer data store (11d 11d') association information including a list of at least two possible bearers for providing the connection (14) (col. 2, lines 23-34, col. 3, lines 60 to col. 4, line 12 and col. 5, lines 22-33. Specifically, Kukkohovi discloses the memory 24 is assumed to store a system or network ordered priority list (PL) 24A, and may store also a network history list (HL) 24B), wherein the contacts bearer data store (11d 11d') associates contacts with bearers so as to arrange the association information by contact (col. 2, lines 23-41 and col. 4, line 37 to col. 5, line 33); and means (11a) for selecting one of the at least two possible bearers based on a predetermined selection strategy (11b) or by trying each of the at least two possible bearers in turn until the

connection (14) is made (col. 4, lines 22-64 and col. 5, lines 22-59); thereby enabling automatic selection of a bearer for providing the connection (14) to the second device (12) without requiring an input by a user of the first device (11) at the time of providing the connection (14) (fig. 2, col. 2, lines 23-41, col. 3, lines 19-31 and col. 4, lines 42-59. Specifically, Kukkohovi discloses this invention provides a mechanism for the mobile terminal 10 to switch between the primary and secondary systems in an automatic and user-transparent manner. Inherently, after selecting a network, it automatically provides a connection between the first mobile terminal and the second mobile terminal).

Regarding claim 21, Kukkohovi discloses all the limitation in claim 20. Further, Kukkohovi discloses a system further characterized in that the apparatus also comprises: means (20) for storing the association information in a contacts bearer data store (11d 11d') (col. 4, lines 3-7); and means (24) by which the first device (11) refers to the contacts bearer data store (11d 11d') accessible to the first device (11) to obtain a list of at least two possible bearers for providing the connection (14) (col. 4, lines 42-59).

Regarding claim 22, Kukkohovi discloses all the limitation in claim 20. Further, Kukkohovi discloses a system wherein the predetermined selection strategy (11b) indicates selecting a bearer based on at least one of the following selection criteria: acceptable price; acceptable bandwidth; acceptable latency; as ordered in a list (11d 11d') hosted in the first device (11); fastest to connect when the first device (11) attempts to make different connections in parallel to the second device (12) via different possible bearers; wherein the acceptable price, acceptable bandwidth, and acceptable latency are as compared to predetermined thresholds for price, bandwidth and latency (col. 5, line 60 to col. 6, line 8).

Regarding claim 23, Kukkohovi discloses all the limitation in claim 20. Further, Kukkohovi discloses a system wherein the association information (11d 11d') includes a bearer identifier for each of at least two different bearers associated with the second device (12) (col. 3, lines 19-30).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 10-12, 19 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kukkohovi (U.S. 6,119,003) in view of Ha et al. (Pub. No: 2004/0243684).

Regarding claim 10, Kukkohovi discloses all the limitation in claim 9. But, Kukkohovi does not disclose a method wherein the association information (11d 11d') further includes an address for use with each bearer associated with the second device (12).

In the same field of endeavor, Ha et al. disclose a method wherein the association information (11d 11d') further includes an address for use with each bearer associated with the second device (12) ([0105]).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the mobile terminal of Kukkohovi by specifically including the association information (11d 11d') further includes an address for use with each bearer associated

with the second device (12), as taught by Ha et al. the motivation being in order to enable the devices to communicate with each other.

Regarding claim 11, Kukkohovi discloses all the limitation in claim 1. But, Kukkohovi does not disclose a method wherein in the step (28) of selecting a bearer, the first device (11) attempts to connect to the second device (12) based on an association of the second device (12) linking the second device (12) to a name of an intended recipient.

In the same field of endeavor, Ha et al. disclose a method wherein in the step (28) of selecting a bearer, the first device (11) attempts to connect to the second device (12) based on an association of the second device (12) linking the second device (12) to a name of an intended recipient ([0105]. Obviously, in order to establishes a connection between the device 1 (master) and device 2 (slave) by selecting the network, e.g., bases on network's address).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the mobile terminal of Kukkohovi by specifically including selecting a bearer, the first device (11) attempts to connect to the second device (12) based on an association of the second device (12) linking the second device (12) to a name of an intended recipient, as taught by Ha et al. the motivation being in order to enable the devices to communicate with each other.

Regarding claim 12, the combination of Kukkohovi and Ha et al. disclose all the limitation in claim 11. But, Kukkohovi does not disclose a method wherein in the step (28) of selecting a bearer, the first device (11) attempts to connect to the second device (12) using the at

least two different bearers included in the association information (11d 11d') as associated with the second device (12).

In the same field of endeavor, Ha et al. disclose a method wherein in the step (28) of selecting a bearer, the first device (11) attempts to connect to the second device (12) using the at least two different bearers included in the association information (11d 11d') as associated with the second device (12) ([0105]).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the mobile terminal of Kukkohovi by specifically including selecting a bearer, the first device (11) attempts to connect to the second device (12) using the at least two different bearers included in the association information (11d 11d') as associated with the second device (12), as taught by Ha et al. the motivation being in order to enable the devices to communicate with each other.

Regarding claim 19, Kukkohovi discloses all the limitation in claim 15. But, Kukkohovi does not disclose an apparatus wherein the means (28) for selecting a bearer is so adapted that the first device (11) attempts to connect to the second device (12) based on an association of the second device (12) linking the second device (12) to a name of an intended recipient.

In the same field of endeavor, Ha et al. disclose an apparatus wherein the means (28) for selecting a bearer is so adapted that the first device (11) attempts to connect to the second device (12) based on an association of the second device (12) linking the second device (12) to a name of an intended recipient ([0105]).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the mobile terminal of Kukkohovi by specifically including selecting a bearer is so adapted that the first device (11) attempts to connect to the second device (12) based on an association of the second device (12) linking the second device (12) to a name of an intended recipient, as taught by Ha et al. the motivation being in order to enable the devices to communicate with each other.

Regarding claim 24, Kukkohovi discloses all the limitation in claim 20. But, Kukkohovi does not disclose a system further characterized in that the apparatus is such that the means (28) for selecting a bearer is so adapted that the first device (11) attempts to connect to the second device (12) based on an association of the second device (12) linking the second device (12) to a name of an intended recipient.

In the same field of endeavor, Ha et al. disclose a system further characterized in that the apparatus is such that the means (28) for selecting a bearer is so adapted that the first device (11) attempts to connect to the second device (12) based on an association of the second device (12) linking the second device (12) to a name of an intended recipient ([0105]).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the mobile terminal of Kukkohovi by specifically including selecting a bearer is so adapted that the first device (11) attempts to connect to the second device (12) based on an association of the second device (12) linking the second device (12) to a name of an intended recipient, as taught by Ha et al. the motivation being in order to enable the devices to communicate with each other.

Response to Argument

6. Applicant, on page 10 of his response, argues that Kukkohovi nowhere discloses or suggests obtaining association information from a contact data store where different possible bearers are provided arranged by contact, i.e., for each contact a list of possible bearers is provided. Thus, Kukkohovi does not provide the functionality of the invention as in the independent claims, *since the association information per the independent claims is on a per contact/ user basis, and not the same for all contacts/ users*. However, the examiner disagrees. Kukkohovi discloses that the networks can be arranged in an ordered or prioritized list that is stored in the terminal. The list can be provided by a specific system operator, or can be provided by the user through the user interface. The applicant's attention is directed to the disclosure of the reference Kukkohovi, at column 2, lines 23-40 and column 3, line 60 to column 4, line 7, as follow:

The networks can be arranged in an ordered or prioritized list that is stored in the terminal. The list can be provided by a specific system operator, or *can be provided by the user through the user interface*. Since the mode selection is based on the stored priority list, the best possible selectable network is typically always active. The terminal periodically checks or scans for the presence of any networks which are listed earlier in the ordered list than the current network. That is, the terminal automatically scans for the presence of higher priority networks. If such a network is detected, the terminal automatically changes the mode and connects to the preferred and available network.

The mobile terminal 10 also includes various memories, shown collectively as the memory 24, wherein are stored a plurality of constants and variables that are used by the controller 18 during the operation of the mobile terminal. For example, the memory 24 stores the values of various cellular system parameters and the number assignment module (NAM). An operating program for controlling the operation of controller 18 is also stored in the memory 24 (typically in a ROM device). The memory 24 may also store data, including user messages, that is received from the BMI 32 prior to the display of the messages to the user. For the purposes of this invention *the memory 24 is assumed to store a system or*

network ordered priority list (PL) 24A, and may store also a network history list (HL) 24B, as described below.

Conclusion

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.


8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dai A Phuong whose telephone number is 571-272-7896. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday, 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, George Eng can be reached on 571-272-7495. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2688

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Dai Phuong
AU: 2688
Date: 02-02-2006


GEORGE ENG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER